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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,523	11/05/2003	Masami Nagano	H6810.0013/P013-A	5928
24998	7590	04/29/2004	EXAMINER	
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP			GIMIE, MAHMOUD	
2101 L STREET NW			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20037-1526			3747	

DATE MAILED: 04/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/700,523	NAGANO ET AL.	

Examiner	Art Unit	
Mahmoud Gimie	3747	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 November 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 19-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/960,490.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 were canceled by preliminary amendment filed on 11/05/2003
2. Claims 19-22 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP-04341392

JP-04341392 discloses a fuel injection device comprising: an intake pipe (11) having interior wall surfaces for providing air from an upstream side to a downstream side; a fuel injection port (23) disposed in said intake pipe between said surfaces for providing fuel into said intake pipe; and an air guide member (20) disposed in said intake pipe in a plane substantially parallel to said surfaces for guiding air separately towards an air flow layer passage (21) and a main air passage (22) wherein said air guided towards said air flow layer passage (21) has a speed at least greater than said air guided towards said main air passage (at low speed).

With regard to claim 20 and 21, said airflow layer passage (21) on said upstream side has a greater cross sectional area than said airflow layer passage on said downstream side, see figure 1.

With regard to claim 22, see above rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Noguchi et al (3,982,504).

Noguchi, et al, discloses a fuel injection device comprising: an intake pipe (6) having interior wall surfaces for providing air from an upstream side to a downstream side; a fuel injection port (18) disposed in said intake pipe between said surfaces for providing fuel into said intake pipe; and an air guide member (21) disposed in said intake pipe in a plane substantially parallel to said surfaces for guiding air separately towards an air flow layer passage (6a) and a main air passage (6b) wherein said air guided towards said air flow layer passage (6a) has a speed at least greater than said air guided towards said main air passage ($v = Q / pA$), see figures 4-6.

With regard to claim 20 and 21, said airflow layer passage (6a) on said upstream side has a greater cross sectional area than said airflow layer passage on said downstream side.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noguchi et al (3,982,504).

Referring to figures 10 and 11, Noguchi, et al, discloses all the limitations as in claims 10-21 above, except for a guide member. However, the wall separating the main passage (24a) and the sub-passage (24b) serves as a guide member.

Therefore, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the invention of Noguchi, et al, by treating the wall the separates the main and sub-passage as a guide member. The motivation to do so would have been to lower manufacturing cost.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited references show partitioned air intake systems.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahmoud Gimie whose telephone number is 703-305-1037. The examiner can normally be reached on 7 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Yuen can be reached on 703-308-1946. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M Gimie



MAHMOUD GIMIE
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3747